

the pressure in the cylinder drops. When the temperature increases, the pressure increases.

The regulator's function is to reduce the high and variable pressure in the cylinder to a lower and constant pressure for delivery to the burners.

A regulator should always be installed with its vent opening pointing downwards so that moisture can't build up inside it, impairing its operation. If this isn't possible, cover the regulator with plastic or some other material that will keep rain or other liquids from entering the regulator.

Check the labels before buying

When you purchase a propane barbecue, be sure it carries a label from one of the following organizations to ensure the product has been tested in Canada and found acceptable.

- Canadian Gas Association (CGA), or
- Canadian Standards Association (CSA), or
- Underwriters' Laboratories in Canada (ULC).

Further information

Booklets describing the proper maintenance of propane-fuelled refrigerators and the use of propane appliances in recreational vehicles are available from:

Consumer Information Centre,
Ontario Ministry of Consumer and
Commercial Relations
555 Yonge Street,
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2H6
Telephone: (416) 963-1111
Collect calls welcome.

Consumer Services Bureaus

250 Windsor Ave., 6th floor
Windsor, Ontario
N9A 6V9
(519) 254-6413

Box 5600, Terminal 'A'
London, Ontario
N6A 2P3
(519) 679-7150

143 Main Street East, Room 206
Hamilton, Ontario
L8N 1G4
(416) 529-8177

555 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2H6
(416) 963-0321

139 George Street North
Peterborough, Ontario
K9J 3G6
(705) 743-8728

1673 Carling Avenue, Suite 102
Ottawa, Ontario
K2A 1C4
(613) 725-1489

295 Bond Street
Sudbury, Ontario
P3B 2J8
(705) 675-8878

P.O. Box 5000
Thunder Bay, Ontario
P7C 5G6
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Propane barbecues: enjoy with care.

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Backyard or balcony barbecuing is as much a rite of summer as baseball, mosquitoes and sunburn. In the past few years more and more people have been sizzling their steaks and cooking their 'burgers' over a propane flame rather than charcoal.

While propane barbecues are cleaner and faster than charcoal, they do present a potential hazard to the careless user. This information sheet explains some of the possible dangers and the means by which those risks can be eliminated.



Ontario

Ministry of
Consumer and
Commercial
Relations

What is propane?

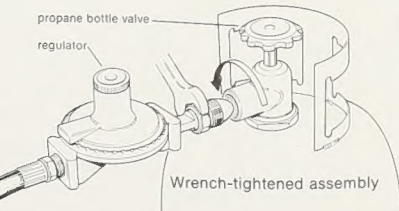
Propane is a colorless and odorless gas when it is produced. To help you to detect a leak in the propane equipment, an odorant, smelling like cooking cabbage, is added to the propane. If you detect this odor, do not attempt to light the barbecue. Turn off the cylinder valve and try to find the leak using the method described in the 'Check for leaks' section below. Used with care, propane is a safe and convenient fuel.

Where to cook?

A propane barbecue is meant to be used outdoors. Do not take it indoors, except for storage. Charcoal or similar fuel used in a barbecue produces carbon monoxide — **never** use these inside any building, boat, recreational vehicle or other enclosed area.

How is propane stored?

Propane is sold for this purpose in a pressure vessel called a cylinder, which, when properly filled, has about 75 per cent of its volume occupied with liquid propane. (Propane gas turns to liquid when placed under pressure). The space above the liquid contains propane vapor.



A propane cylinder is required by law to pass an inspection every 10 years from the date of its manufacture to ensure that it is safe for continued use. The law prohibits any person from filling a cylinder that is overdue for inspection or one showing signs of corrosion or other damage.

A cylinder that is overfilled with propane is no bargain for you; it can be dangerous. If there is insufficient space above the liquid propane and the cylinder is exposed to high temperatures the "relief valve" may open, allowing gas to escape and creating a hazard.

How should a cylinder be handled?

Secure the cylinder to prevent it from falling over. Never transport a cylinder lying on its side. It should always be kept upright and secured.

If you *must* carry a cylinder in a car trunk, prop open the trunk lid to prevent heat build up that could cause the relief valve to open, permitting gas to escape.

Don't store a cylinder in your house, garage or in a vehicle, leave it outdoors, or in a garden storage shed.

Watch those connections!

When connecting the barbecue to the propane cylinder, use a proper fitting wrench (not pliers) to tighten the connection between the regulator and the cylinder valve. (See diagram.) Accidents have been reported in which barbecue owners haven't sufficiently tightened this connection and the escaping gas has been ignited by the burner flame. Remember that the fitting that connects to the cylinder valve has to be turned to the left to tighten. Some connec-

tors have a hand wheel and only require hand tightening. With this type, ensure that the rubber "O" ring is in good condition and in place before connecting to the cylinder valve.

Check for leaks

Before using your barbecue, particularly if you have just connected a cylinder to it, it is advisable to check for leaks using the following method:

- Make up a soap and water solution and spread this over the connections with a paint brush;
- Turn the cylinder valve on. If there are leaks, bubbles will form in the soapy water;
- If a leak is indicated, shut-off cylinder;
- Repair any leak, repeat (a) & (b) until no leaks are indicated before operating the barbecue;
- DO NOT go over connections looking for leaks with a match or cigarette lighter or any other flame.

The regulator

Propane in a cylinder reacts rapidly to changes in temperature. When the temperature drops,

